

Dear Members of the Connecticut Human Services Committee:

My name is Emilia Fuentes, I am 24 years old, and I live in Hartford. I am a member of the *Hartford Deportation Defense*. I support **HB 6616: An Act Relating to the Expansion of HUSKY Health Benefits for Persons Ineligible Due to Immigration Status**.

I was pregnant in the year 2020. During the pregnancy, I had a serious infection for which I was hospitalized for 4 days. When my baby was born, I was fine for two months, then the same symptoms came back. I went to the emergency ward, where they made me wait 5 hours and when they came to see me, they only asked me about the symptoms and did not do any tests or anything. They gave me Tylenol; they sent me home in pain. Having health insurance would allow me to find a GP and thus be able to detect the symptoms of any disease before it becomes something more serious and painful.

I am here in support of **HB 6616: An Act Relating to the Expansion of HUSKY Health Benefits for Persons Ineligible Due to Immigration Status**. We need everyone to have access to health insurance, and for this committee to commit to continue working to expand the program beyond age 26.

Thanks for your time,

Emilia Fuentes